

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 15-17 are pending in the present application. Claims 11-14 have been canceled.

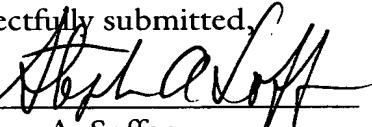
Applicant hereby confirms the election of claims 1-12, without traverse, in response to the Restriction Requirement.

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 9-11 is acknowledged with appreciation. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 11, such that claim 1 is now allowable. Claims 2-10 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, and thus are also submitted to be allowable.

Non-elected claims 15-17 are product by process claims that specifically depend from, and thus specifically incorporate the limitations of claim 1 (see claim 15, line 9). Since claim 1 is now allowable, applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-17 are also necessarily allowable.

Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to allow pending claims 1-10 and 15-17, and pass the present application to issuance.

Dated: November 5, 2004

Respectfully submitted,
By 

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